

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

What is claimed is:

Claims 1-18 (Canceled)

19. (Previously Amended) A modified human prolactin molecule that exhibits the following characteristics:

- 1) exhibits antagonist activity;
- 2) binds to prolactin receptor through site 1;
- 3) does not bind to prolactin receptor through site 2 or has diminished binding through site 2; and
- 4) exhibits less than 1% of unmodified prolactin's agonist activity;

wherein the prolactin molecule comprises at least one mutation in a region selected from i) amino acids 41-57, ii) amino acids 94-110, and iii) amino acids 160-173; and wherein the at least one mutation is selected from deletions, replacements, and insertions.

20. (Original) The modified human prolactin molecule according to claim 19, wherein the prolactin molecule exhibits less than 0.9% of unmodified prolactin's agonist activity.

21. (Original) The modified human prolactin molecule according to claim 20, wherein the prolactin molecule exhibits less than 0.5% of unmodified prolactin's agonist activity.

Claims 22-26 (Canceled)